

## Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /075 W

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O R 291402Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4387

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2923

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, RH

SUBJ: SOUTHERN AFRICA: PRESS HIGHLIGHTS, OCTOBER 29

SUMMARY. BOTH DAILY NEWSPAPERS CARRY REPORTS OUT OF  
GENEVA RECOUNTING THE OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE ON  
RHODESIA; DAILY MAIL FOCUSES ON ALLEGED INCREASE IN  
GUERRILLA ACTIVITY ON EVE OF CONFERENCE AND TIMES  
DENOUNCED EDITORIALLY "WHISPERING" FROM THE UNITED  
STATES THAT FRONTLINE STATES HAD AGREED IN ADVANCE TO  
SMITH PACKAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. TIMES EDITORIAL STATES THAT IF WHISPERS EMANATING FROM  
THE DIRECTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND ALLEGING THAT FRONTLINE  
STATES ACCEPTED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS THE "KISSINGER PACKAGE  
DEAL", DO NOT CEASE, PACKAGE DEAL CAN BLOW UP EVEN BEFORE GENEVA.  
WHISPERS ARE NOT TRUE; FRONTLINE STATES "WILL NOT STOMACH  
POLITICAL SMEAR." FRONTLINE STATES "APPRECIATED HENRY KISSINGER'S  
CHARMING OF SMITH INTO CONCEDING BLACK MAJORITY RULE PUBLICLY,  
BUT THEY HAVE ALWAYS EXPRESSED SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ON THE  
REST OF WHATEVER THEY KNEW OF THE DEAL." FRONTLINE STATES  
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COULD NOT HAVE ACCEPTED DETAILS OF AGREEMENT, BECAUSE THIS WOULD

BE IMMORAL SINCE THIS IS RESPONSIBILITY OF RHODESIAN NATIONALISTS.  
"THE NATIONALIST LEADERS ARE THEREFORE AT FULLEST LIBERTY IN  
GENEVA TO DEAL WITH THE 'KISSINGER PACKAGE' IN ANY MANNER THEY  
SEE FIT IN THE INTEREST OF THEIR OWN COUNTRY."

2. DAILY MAIL AND TIMES ARTICLES PICK UP SAME THEMES ON  
CONFERENCE OPENING -- SHORTNESS OF OPENING SESSION; DEPTH OF  
SUSPICION BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE PARTICIPANTS; MUGABE/NKOMO  
WARNING  
THAT THE DEMANDS THEY HAVE MADE MUST BE MET, IF  
CONFERENCE IS TO SUCCEED; AND REPORT THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
SCHAUFELE WILL BE GOING TO GENEVA.

3. TIMES IS DOMINATED BY HEADLINE, "GUNPOINT TALKS -- FIGHTERS  
MOVE IN FOR THE KILL." ARTICLE ALLEGES THAT TALKS IN GENEVA  
OPENED AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF "UNPRECEDENTED INTENSIFICATION  
OF THE FREEDOM WAR BACK HOME." NATIONALISTS ARE QUOTED AS  
PREDICTING THAT THIS WEEKEND WILL BE ONE OF THE BLOODIEST SINCE  
1972. ZIPA LEADER REX NHONGO IS CREDITED WITH SAYING THAT  
HE SEES NO CHANCE OF SUCCESS FOR THE TALKS AND HAS DECIDED THE  
ONLY ANSWER IS INTENSIFICATION OF THE WAR. ZIPA BELIEVES THAT  
"ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE EVIDENCE, THE SMITH REGIME WOULD  
COLLAPSE IN TWO YEARS IF THE ARMED STRUGGLE WAS KEPT UP,  
THEREFORE KISSINGER PLAN WAS INTENDED TO SALVAGE SMITH FROM  
TOTAL DEFEAT." EVIDENCE OF INTENSIFIED MILITARY ACTION GIVEN  
IS ATTACK ON RAIL LINE NEAR BOTSWANA BORDER, AND DESTRUCTION OF  
RHODESIAN FARMING TOWN OF NHAMAHOBOGO (150 KILOMETERS NORTHEAST  
OF SALISBURY) BY ROCKET FIRE. LOW

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## Message Attributes

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